

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 DODE-00

EB-11 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 COME-00 NSCE-00

SAJ-01 AID-20 ACDA-19 MC-02 NEA-14 EUR-25 /156 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:JPLEONARD:BDS

APPROVED BY EA:AWHUMMEL,JR.

EA/ROC - MR. SULLIVAN

DOD/DSAA - VADM PEET

PM/SAS - MR. COONY (DRAFT)

PPM/MC - MR. SANFORD (DRAFT)

EA/PRCM - MR. ARMSTRONG (DRAFT)

NSC - MR. FROEBE (INFORMED)

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R 2028Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CHMAAG TAIPEI TAIWAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 105032

E.O. 1152: GDS-3

TAGS:MASS,TW

SUBJECT: PSMM CO-PRODUCTION PROJECT

REF: STATE 99776, MAY 26, 1973

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION FROM TACOMA BOAT COMPANY (TBC) FOR MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF PATROL SHIP MULTI-MISSION (PSMM) MK V FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (ROC). APPLICATION COVERS 2 SHIPS TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN US AND 5 IN ROC. IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN REFTTEL, DEPARTMENT HAS APPROVED CONSTRUCTION AND SALE OF 5 SHIPS ONLY AT THIS TIME, WITH PROVISION
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THAT FURTHER APPROVAL MUST BE SOUGHT FOR SALE OR CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL SHIPS.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT CONCEPT OF THE PSMM IS THAT ITS ARMAMENT WOULD INCLUDE A SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE SYSTEM. TBC EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION DOES INCLUDE AN UNSPECIFIED MISSILE LAUNCHING SYSTEM. DEPARTMENT WILL NEED MORE PRECISE INFORMATION ON TYPE OF MISSILE AND NUMBER INVOLVED BEFORE CONSIDERING EXPORT LICENSE FOR ANY MISSILE LAUNCHING SYSTEM.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION, DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED REQUESTS

FROM ROC EMBASSY FOR PERMISSION TO PURCHASE BOTH "STANDARD" AND "HARPOON" SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES. ROC REQUEST IS NOT SPECIFIC AS TO NUMBER OF MISSILES OR INTENDED INSTALLATION. WE UNDERSTAND THEY INTEND TO INSTALL STANDARD (CURRENTLY AN OPERATION SYSTEM) ON THE PSMM AND THEN POSSIBLY REPLACE THIS SYSTEM AT A LATER TIME WITH HARPOON (CURRENTLY IN THE TEST STAGE). WE ARE INFORMED THAT LESS SOPHISTICATED VERSIONS OF BOTH SYSTEMS ARE BEING DEVELOPED FOR INTERNATIONAL SALES. IN ADDITION, ROC IS REPORTED TO BE INTERESTED IN THE ISRAELI "GABRIEL" AND THE ITALIAN "OTOMAT" MISSILES.

4. QUESTION OF SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES FOR ROCN HAS NOT YET BEEN SUBJECT TO NECESSARY WASHINGTON REVIEW. COUNTRY TEAM IS THEREFORE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, APPROACHING GROC AS NECESSARY:

A. HAS ROC YET DECIDED WHICH MISSILE SYSTEM IT DESIRES FOR PSMM?

B. WHAT IS JUSTIFICATION FOR SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE SYSTEM ON ROCN SHIPS?

C. WHAT SHIPS OTHER THAN PSMM DOES ROCN HOPE TO EQUIP WITH SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES AS PART OF NAVAL MODERNIZATION PROGRAM?

D. WHAT ARE ESTIMATES OF TOTAL NUMBER OF SYSTEMS
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(BY TYPE) AND MISSILES ROC PLANS TO PROCURE?

RUSH

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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